

House Resolution No. 192

Whereas, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives hold in high esteem those Show-Me State organizations which bring glory and honor to themselves and to this great state through the excellence of their achievements; and

Whereas, the Whitaker Foundation of Saint Louis has attained considerable distinction as a private foundation which was formed in 1975 upon the death of Mae M. Whitaker as a memorial to her husband, Lyndon C. Whitaker, through its support of large and small arts organizations and its providing essential funding for mid-sized groups to upgrade their programming; and

Whereas, now headed by Executive Director Christy Gray, the Whitaker Foundation has enhanced its already impressive record of accomplishments by earning a 2005 Missouri Arts Award in the area of Philanthropy; and

Whereas, initiated in 1983, the Missouri Arts Award is the state's highest honor for individuals and institutions that have made profound and lasting contributions to Missouri's cultural and artistic climate; and

Whereas, Missouri Arts Awards are sponsored by the Missouri Arts Council, the state's grant making agency for the arts which provides nearly \$3 million in assistance to nonprofit organizations throughout Missouri; and

Whereas, a division of the Missouri Department of Economic Development, the Missouri Arts Council is the second oldest, state-funded arts agency in the country; and

Whereas, the Missouri Arts Council was founded in 1965 to encourage and stimulate the growth, development, and appreciation of the arts in Missouri and is overseen by a fifteen-member Board which consists of volunteer citizens from across the state who are appointed by the Governor; and

Whereas, Governor Matt Blunt and First Lady Melanie Blunt will present the Whitaker Foundation with its Missouri Arts Award on Wednesday, February 9, 2005, in the Capitol Rotunda in Jefferson City:

Now, therefore, be it resolved that we, the members of the Missouri House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, join unanimously to applaud the well-deserved selection of the Whitaker Foundation for a 2005 Missouri Arts Award in the area of Philanthropy and to convey to all of those involved this legislative body's most heartfelt commendation of their splendid efforts on behalf of the visual and performing arts and our sincerest best wishes for continued success for many more years to come; and

Be it further resolved that the Chief Clerk of the Missouri House of Representatives be instructed to prepare a properly inscribed copy of this resolution in honor of the Whitaker Foundation of Saint Louis, Missouri.

Offered by _____
Representative Robin Wright Jones
District No. 63

I, Rod Jetton, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Ninety-third General Assembly, First Regular Session, do certify that the above is a true and correct copy of House Resolution No. 192, adopted January 20, 2005.

Rod Jetton, Speaker